

20 November 1946

Country: Germany/Russia

Subject: The Intentions of Russia and the German Problem

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1. The intentions of the Soviet Union with respect to the handling of the German problem are reported to conform to a very definite, carefully prepared, plan.
2. The four following points may be taken to represent the Soviet Union's policy for the long-term handling of the German problem:
 - a. With regard to Germany generally, and in so far as its own zone of occupation is concerned in particular, this policy is based on the premise that at a given moment the incorporation of this zone into the Soviet Union's European Bloc may be decided upon.
 - b. Whatever outward signs of cooperation there may be with the other Allied zones, they are primarily formal, and will alter in no way Russia's firm policy of "hands off the Soviet Zone".
 - c. At no time will matters of political, military, industrial, or economic interest be shared with the other Allies, or be allowed to become the object of outside influence or interference.
 - d. The strengthening of ties between the Slav peoples, the aggrandisement of their territories (under direct rule or under protection), and the maintenance of sufficiently secure frontiers with uninterrupted lines of communications, will be one of the foremost considerations when dealing with the German problem as a whole.
3. Russia's more immediate policy is concerned with the political and military organization of its zone, and of the two, the military organization is probably the more important. This military organization has been entrusted to specially chosen staff officers who are not necessarily connected with the military government of the zone. They receive their orders direct from the Red Army HQ in Moscow. The following points are reported to be the main concerns of their mission:

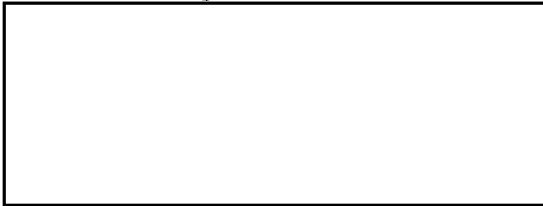
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- a. To formulate strategic plans to fit in with the Soviet Union's general plans of defense and attack.
- b. To prepare and train German youth to take its place and assume its responsibilities in the plans referred to in paragraph "a" above.
- c. To select qualified subjects and arrange for their transfer to training centers in Soviet Russia or Russian occupied territory.
- d. To undertake all of the above with the assistance of the Superior Committee of the Group of German Officers which was organized in Russia during the war.

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